

**Sauganash School, 2023-2024 7th Grade Social Science and Writing -Teacher- Dan Lundak**

- This course covers American history from its indigenous past to the Reconstruction Era while always making connections to the students' world today. Students will examine how the American identity was shaped, challenged, and expanded upon by those who lived here, moved here, and were forced here. Students will study how geography affected the identity and development of the nation and its diverse cultures. In this course, students will examine how the push for power, money, and land led to and encouraged the oppression of native peoples, enslaved people, women, and more. Students will study the ideals in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and examine how the government lives up to those ideals or falls short. Students will study how individuals and groups rose up to fight oppression. This course will also explore the United States' role in the world by examining the beginning of its movement toward global leadership. Students will study the effects science, technology, and economics had and continue to have on the development of the United States. Students will gain a better understanding of how their own identities are part of America's story; how our nation's history and diversity have influenced their own story; and how they see and interact with the world they live in today. Integrated into Social Science, students will use the writing process to craft historical fiction, poetry, argumentative essays and other writing pertaining to the historical content. Subject to change based on student needs.

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
7	<p><b>Unit One Native American Identities: Woven Across Time</b></p> <p>Bio Poems</p>	<p><b>Unit Two The Many Identities of Country and Self</b></p> <p>Narrative writing</p>	<p><b>Unit Two The Many Identities of Country and Self</b></p> <p><b>Unit Three Competing for Land, Control, and Liberty</b></p> <p>Narrative Writing</p>	<p><b>Unit Three Competing for Land, Control, and Liberty</b></p> <p><b>Unit Four Setting Up Systems of Power</b></p> <p>Literary Essay</p>	<p><b>Unit Four Setting Up Systems of Power</b></p> <p><b>Unit Five The Fight to End Slavery</b></p> <p>Literary Essay</p>	<p><b>Unit Five The Fight to End Slavery</b></p> <p><b>Unit 6 Resisting, Reforming, Re-imaginin g</b></p> <p>Poetry Analysis</p>	<p><b>Unit 6 Resisting, Reforming, Re-imaginin g</b></p> <p><b>Unit 7 Expansion and Influence: By What Right?</b></p> <p>Argumentative Speech</p>	<p><b>Unit 7 Expansion and Influence: By What Right?</b></p> <p>Argumentative Speech</p>	<p><b>Unit 8 Global Connectio ns</b></p> <p>Current Events Journalism</p>	<p><b>Review</b></p> <p>Writing Review</p>

## Sauganash School

### 2023-2024 8th grade Civics/Social Science/Writing Curriculum Map

#### Dan Lundak, 8th grade Civics/Social Science/ Writing Teacher

- Semester 1:** Democracy depends on an involved populace. Young people who can answer the **Participate** course’s Essential Questions will, we believe, have taken the first steps toward active and informed participation in our democracy. They will understand foundational concepts, like democracy, power, and participation. They will know how to use and create media. They will understand their rights and how those rights have changed over time. They will understand the significance of elections in a democracy and know how they can participate—by voting, running for office, campaigning, helping inform and register other voters, and more. They will recognize why public policy is important and have the knowledge and skills needed to analyze policy and influence policymakers. They will be able to analyze power in their communities. Finally, they will be able to answer the question, “what power do I have as an eighth-grader?”
- Semester 2:** The 8th grade U.S. History course builds on what it means to be an American and analyzes how people have fought for the ideals of American democracy. The course examines how individuals and organizations confronted, and continue to resist, systems of power in order to combat oppression. Students will make connections of the struggles, goals, and tactics of past social movements to the purpose and efforts of present-day fights for justice. With this study, students will understand the power people have to take action in their community, nation and world. They will also gain the knowledge, skills, and tools to be the agents of change. Integrated into Social Science, students will use the writing process to craft historical fiction, poetry, argumentative essays and other writing pertaining to the historical content. Subject to change based on student needs.

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
8th	<p><b>State mandated, 8th grade Civics Unit</b></p> <p>Bio Poem</p>	<p><b>State mandated, 8th grade Civics Unit</b></p> <p>Personal Narrative</p>	<p><b>State mandated, 8th grade Civics Unit</b></p> <p>Argumentative Writing</p>	<p><b>State mandated, 8th grade Civics Unit</b></p> <p>Argumentative Writing</p>	<p><b>State mandated, 8th grade Civics Unit</b></p> <p>CPS mandated, Reparations Won Unit</p> <p>Poetry Analysis</p>	<p><b>CPS mandated, Reparations Won Unit</b></p> <p>Journalism-Current Events</p>	<p>Facing History, Little Rock Nine Unit</p> <p>Journalism-Current Events</p>	<p>Facing History, Little Rock Nine Unit</p> <p>Character Analysis</p>	<p><b>State mandated Unit on Holocaust</b></p> <p>Research/Thesis Paper</p>	<p><b>Culminating Project</b></p> <p>Writing Review</p>